

REMARKS

Claims 1-5 are pending in this application. The Examiner is thanked for the indication of allowable subject matter in the last Office Action. The Examiner is also thanked for the recommended changes to the claims.

Specification/Abstract

The objections to the language of the abstract in paragraph 3 of the last Office Action is traversed but is deemed moot by the new abstract presented concurrently herewith.

Claim Objections

The objections to claims 1-3 and 5 in paragraph 4 of the last Office Action is traversed but has been rendered moot by the current amendments to these claims. The Examiner's suggestions for changes are much appreciated. In general the suggestions have been incorporated herein.

Claim Rejections under 37 USC 112

The rejection of claims 3-5 in paragraph 5 of the last Office Action under 35 USC 112 is traversed but has been rendered moot by the current amendments. Claim 3 has been amended consistent with the Examiner's suggestions.

Claim rejections under 35 USC 102

The rejections of claims 3 and 4 in paragraphs 7 and 8 under 35 USC 102 over EP 0709906A1 (Yamahira) is traversed but has been rendered moot by the present amendments.

Yamahira does not disclose either organic fibers or organic polymer particles having the diameter now specified in claim 3.

Yamahira does not disclose a process wherein heating of the raw electrode, identified as step (d) in the claimed process is higher than the temperature of calcining identified in the claimed process as step (a).

The above-discussed limitations now present in the claims now prevent these claims from describing the subject matter of Yamahira. Yamahira does not disclose what is here claimed. Accordingly, claims 3 and 4 are free of any rejection for lack of novelty over Yamahira.

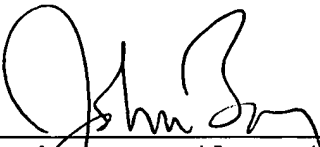
Conclusions


Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact David R. Murphy (Reg. No. 22,751) at the telephone number of the undersigned below.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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